



SOME RARE HERBS OF ALIRAJPUR, MADHYA PRADESH, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Alirajpur is situated in the south west corner of Madhya Pradesh. Alirajpur is declared as a new district on 17th May 2008. Dry deciduous forest is found in the area. Major part of the area is covered by the Deccan trap. Floristic studies were carried out in the year 2013-2015. This area is the representative of climax vegetation and exhibit the diversity of species such as trees, climbers, epiphyte and other shade living herbs. Present study reports 10 plant species which is distributed in 09 families 10 Genera are found in Alirajpur, Madhya Pradesh, India

KEYWORD: Alirajpur, Floristic studies, vegetation, Botanical garden, Dry deciduous forest.

INTRODUCTION:

Plants are most important approach to study natural resources management of indigenous people. The richness of flowering plants makes India one of the mega diversity countries in the world with four biodiversity hotspots and three mega centers of endemism (Pachaya & Sainkhediya 2014). Aravallis in the western part, the uplands in the Deccan plateau surrounding by the hill ranges of Vindhya-Satpura system in the north, the Western ghat along the western coastal line and Eastern Ghats at its eastern coast line converging with the Nilgiri Mountain and the unique plain valley of Ganga, Brahmaputra basin make the India as a rich nation of biodiversity. India is good sources of medicinal plants. The biodiversity found on earth today consisting of many millions of distinct biological species which is the product of nearly 3.5 billion years of evolution. During this past 3.5 billion years, a wide variety of plants came into existence, flourished and then vanished due to various reasons (Sainkhediya and Ray 2014). It has approximately 7500 medicinal plant species are found (Thakur et al. 2014). Some plant species are an oasis of biodiversity securing feed and shelter for invertebrates, birds and mammals (Pachaya & Sainkhediya 2015).

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Alirajpur district lying between 22°18'N latitude and 74°20'E longitude, covers an area of 3182 square kilometers. Mahee and Narmada rivers make its Eastern and Southern border. According to census 2011, Alirajpur population is 728,999. Alirajpur District Average Rainfall is 850 mm. Alirajpur District temperatures ranges between 23- 30°C. Bhagoriya is a special cultural public festival of Alirajpur district.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

A Systematic Plant survey and collection were carried out in different season from 2013-2015 by well planned schedule. All habitats from various ecological niches of the study area were surveyed carefully. Plant collection was carried out by standard method (Jain, and Rao, 1977). Plant specimen was identified with the help of Flora of Madhya Pradesh (Verma et al.1993), Flora of Bihar and Orissa (Haines 1921-1924), Flora of Madras (Gamble 1915), Flora of Gujarat (Shah 1978.), Flora of Marathwara (Naik 1998) and available literature.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Many plant species are facing threats for their existence due to anthropogenic influences and other reasons. According to the International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN, 1978), out of 17000 species of higher plants near 1256 species in India are threatened. In Madhya Pradesh 90 plant species considered as threatened (Nayar and Sastry 1990). 94 threatened plant species are found in Nimar region of Madhya Pradesh (Ray & Sainkhediya 2014). Present study reports 10 plant species which is distributed in 09 families 10 Genera are found in Alirajpur, Madhya Pradesh, India, which appear to be a good representation of the flora for a small region. The vegetation structure of the area is remarkably changing due to anthropogenic pressure and over – exploitation of forest resources. In view of the serious concern that the rate of eroding biodiversity is rising and it is estimated that nearly 10% of the recorded biological wealth is on the verge of extinction (Raj.2010), due to care and action should be taken on priority basis for the conservation of rare, species. Table-1 showed the rare herbs are found in Alirajpur, Madhya Pradesh, India.

Table 1: Rare herbs of Alirajpur.

S. no.	Botanical name	Family	Status	Reason	Cons. Str.
1	<i>Amaranthus cruentus</i> (L.) Thell.	Amaranthaceae	Vul.	Hm	ISC
2	<i>Andrographis paniculata</i> Nees.	Acanthaceae	Vul.	Hm	ISC
3	<i>Boerhavia diffusa</i> L.	Nyctaginaceae	Vul.	Hm	ISC
4	<i>Chlorophytum borivilianum</i> Sant. & Fern.	Liliaceae	EN	T	ISC
5	<i>Cloeme burmanii</i> W. & A.	Capparaceae	EN	C	ISC
6	<i>Curculigo orchoides</i> Gaertn.	Hypoxidaceae	Vul.	TP	ISC
7	<i>Cymbopogon martinii</i> (Roxb.) Wats.	Poaceae	Vul.	T	ESC/CUL
8	<i>Hemidesmus indicus</i> R. Br.	Apocynaceae	Vul.	OV	ISC
9	<i>Tacca leontopetaloides</i> (L.) kuntze.	Taccaceae	EN	L	ISC
10	<i>Tripogon jacquemontii</i> Stapf.	Poaceae	NT	I/OV	ISC

Abr.: ISC=In-situ conservation, CUL=cultivation, ESC=Ex-situ conservation, C=Climate, Hm=Harvest for medicine, L=Loss of habitat, OV=Over exploitation, T=Trade, TP=Trade for parts, Cons. Str.= Conservation strategy

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